CASE 4-326

FILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

Date of Deposit

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1617

LOEFROTH ET AL.

Examiner: Webman, Edward J.

APPLICATION NO: 08/945,655 FILED: OCTOBER 24, 1997

FOR: PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITION FOR SUSTAINED RELEASE

OF THE HMG-COA REDUCTASE INHIBITOR FLUVASTATIN

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of November 12, 2002 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on February 12, 2003. A one-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation in the amount of \$110 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis Corporation.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis Corporate Intellectual Property One Health Plaza, Building 430 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: March 7, 2003

Gregory D. Ferraro Attorney for Applicants

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